

Notice of Allowability

Application No.

10/091,137

Applicant(s)

BONE, DANIEL

Examiner

Terrence R. Till

Art Unit

1744

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address--

All claims being allowable, PROSECUTION ON THE MERITS IS (OR REMAINS) CLOSED in this application. If not included herewith (or previously mailed), a Notice of Allowance (PTOL-85) or other appropriate communication will be mailed in due course. **THIS NOTICE OF ALLOWABILITY IS NOT A GRANT OF PATENT RIGHTS.** This application is subject to withdrawal from issue at the initiative of the Office or upon petition by the applicant. See 37 CFR 1.313 and MPEP 1308.

1. ☒ This communication is responsive to The amendment filed 5/10/2002.
2. ☒ The allowed claim(s) is/are 59-87.
3. ☐ The drawings filed on _____ are accepted by the Examiner.
4. ☒ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
 - a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some* c) ☒ None of the:
 1. ☒ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this national stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* Certified copies not received: _____.


Applicant has THREE MONTHS FROM THE "MAILING DATE" of this communication to file a reply complying with the requirements noted below. Failure to timely comply will result in ABANDONMENT of this application.
THIS THREE-MONTH PERIOD IS NOT EXTENDABLE.

5. ☐ A SUBSTITUTE OATH OR DECLARATION must be submitted. Note the attached EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT or NOTICE OF INFORMAL PATENT APPLICATION (PTO-152) which gives reason(s) why the oath or declaration is deficient.
6. ☒ CORRECTED DRAWINGS (as "replacement sheets") must be submitted.
 - (a) ☒ including changes required by the Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) attached
 - 1) ☒ hereto or 2) ☐ to Paper No./Mail Date _____.
 - (b) ☐ including changes required by the attached Examiner's Amendment / Comment or in the Office action of Paper No./Mail Date _____.

Identifying indicia such as the application number (see 37 CFR 1.84(c)) should be written on the drawings in the front (not the back) of each sheet. Replacement sheet(s) should be labeled as such in the header according to 37 CFR 1.121(d).
7. ☐ DEPOSIT OF and/or INFORMATION about the deposit of BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL must be submitted. Note the attached Examiner's comment regarding REQUIREMENT FOR THE DEPOSIT OF BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL.

Attachment(s)

1. ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
2. ☒ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
3. ☒ Information Disclosure Statements (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08),
Paper No./Mail Date 3/5/2004
4. ☐ Examiner's Comment Regarding Requirement for Deposit
of Biological Material
5. ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
6. ☒ Interview Summary (PTO-413),
Paper No./Mail Date 3/5/2004
7. ☒ Examiner's Amendment/Comment
8. ☒ Examiner's Statement of Reasons for Allowance
9. ☐ Other _____


Terrence R. Till
Primary Examiner
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EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT

1. An examiner's amendment to the record appears below. Should the changes and/or additions be unacceptable to applicant, an amendment may be filed as provided by 37 CFR 1.312. To ensure consideration of such an amendment, it MUST be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee.

Authorization for this examiner's amendment was given in a telephone interview with M. Elchuk on 3/4/2004.

The application has been amended as follows:

In the specification:

2. On page 17, paragraph 57, line 3 "19" has been changed to --119--.
3. On page 25, paragraph 80, line 9, "[number to be supplied when issued]" has been replaced with --GB 01-165-88.5, pending--.

In the claims:

4. In claim 86, line 1, "1" has been replaced with --85--.
5. In claim 87, line 1, "1" has been replaced with --85--.
6. The following is an examiner's statement of reasons for allowance: With respect to claim 59, the prior art does not disclose nor render obvious the claimed combination of a vacuum cleaner comprising: a removable dust collection module which forms part of an air flow path through the vacuum cleaner; and a closure member arranged to be moved relative to the collection module so as simultaneously to close a first air flow path into the dust collection module and to open a second air flow path into the dust collection module that is remote from the first dust flow path, and vice versa. With respect to claim 72, the prior art does not disclose nor

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render obvious the claimed combination of a dust collection module which in use forms part of an air flow path through the vacuum cleaner, the dust collection module component part(s) comprising: first and second air inlets; and a closure member in the form of a shuttle member that can be slid to the component part(s) simultaneously to cover the first air inlet and uncover the second air inlet, and vice versa, whereby the air flow path into the component part(s) can be changed. With respect to claim 83, the prior art does not disclose nor render obvious the claimed combination of a vacuum cleaner comprising: a dust collection component which in use forms part of an airflow path through the vacuum cleaner, the component including first and second air inlets; a shuttle member supported by said dust collection component, said shuttle member comprising at least one aperture and an airflow blocking portion, said shuttle member being movable slidably relative to said dust collection component; said shuttle member being movable from a first position, wherein said aperture is in airflow communication with said first air inlet and said airflow blocking portion blocks said second inlet, to a second position wherein said aperture is not in airflow communication with said first air inlet and said airflow blocking portion is not blocking said second inlet. With respect to claim 84, the prior art does not disclose nor render obvious the claimed combination of a vacuum cleaner comprising: a dust collection component which in use forms part of an airflow path through the vacuum cleaner, the component including spaced apart first and second air inlets; a shuttle member supported for slidable movement relative to said dust collection component, said shuttle member including first and second spaced apart openings and first and second airflow blocking portions; said shuttle being movable from a first position wherein said first opening communicates with said first air inlet and said second airflow blocking portion blocks said second air inlet, to a second position

wherein said second opening communicates with said second air inlet and said first airflow blocking portion blocks said first air inlet. With respect to claim 85, the prior art does not disclose nor render obvious the claimed combination of a vacuum cleaner comprising: a dust collection component which in use forms part of an airflow path through the vacuum cleaner; a shuttle member movable slidably generally linearly relative to said dust collection component; said shuttle member providing a first airflow path for dirt entrained air into said dust collection component when said shuttle is in a first position; and said shuttle member providing a second airflow path for dirt entrained air into said dust collection component when said shuttle is moved into a second position.

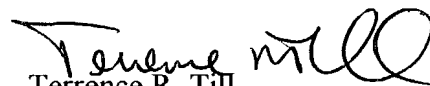
Any comments considered necessary by applicant must be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee and, to avoid processing delays, should preferably accompany the issue fee. Such submissions should be clearly labeled "Comments on Statement of Reasons for Allowance."

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Terrence R. Till whose telephone number is (571) 272-1280. The examiner can normally be reached on Mon. through Thurs. and every other Friday.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Robert J. Warden can be reached on (571) 272-1281. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 703-872-9306.

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Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).



Terrence R. Till
Primary Examiner
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